



Indiana Economic Development Corporation

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April 10, 2007

Jennifer Kane
Division of Hearings
Natural Resources Commission

Dear Ms. Kane:

Pursuant to IC 4-22-2-28, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation ("IEDC") has reviewed the economic impact analysis for small business associated with new rules in LSA 06-333 proposed by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The proposed rule amends 312 IAC 2-4-6, 312 IAC 2-4-7, 312 IAC 2-4-12, 312 IAC 8-2-6, and 312 IAC 8-2-8 and adds 312 IAC 1-1-4.5, 312 IAC 1-1-23.5, 312 IAC 1-1-29.4, and 312 IAC 8-2-16 to make numerous changes to rules governing the conduct of activities on DNR properties and the conduct of fishing tournaments and other organized boating activities, both on DNR properties and on public waters outside DNR properties.

Although the proposed rule contains several provisions, the only provision that creates a potential direct impact for small businesses is the requirement that an annual boat lake permit and annual motorboat lake permit be obtained to operate or maintain a boat and a motorboat on a lake located in a DNR property. This requirement does not apply to a lake administered by the division of fish and wildlife. Entities affected by this provision include boat rental businesses outside of DNR properties that rent boats for use on DNR lakes. The DNR indicates that it is unlikely that more than thirty total entities would be affected. The impact statement provided by DNR indicates that businesses will likely incur some administrative costs as a result of compliance with the rule. These costs could include travel and postage costs incurred while obtaining the permit. The DNR does not anticipate these costs to be significant. Economic costs consist of the cost to purchase the boat lake permit. The DNR estimates that the annual fee increase statewide to small businesses will be approximately \$2,000.

The IEDC does not object to the economic impact associated with the proposed rule. The primary changes contained in the rule will have the effect of making DNR fees be assessed more uniformly to entities receiving similar benefit from the use of DNR properties. If you have any questions about the comments contained herein please contact me at 232-8962 or rasberry@iiedc.in.gov.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ryan Asberry".

Ryan Asberry
Director - Research
Indiana Economic Development Corporation